

SAN FRANCISCO FORECAST DISTRICT

The month was marked by a continuation of dry weather in California and by dry weather but with occasional local rains elsewhere until after the 18th, when more or less general rains occurred over the north Pacific States and Idaho. These rains were particularly beneficial in that they terminated a prolonged period of high forest-fire hazard in these regions. The only marked change to cooler weather generally over the district occurred during the period beginning on the 18th and ending on the 26th, when warnings of frost or of freezing temperature were required for Nevada and Idaho and the eastern parts of Washington and Oregon. It is worthy of note that this spell of unseasonably low temperatures followed an abnormal rise in pressure over the Bering Sea and the Aleutian Islands. The peak of high pressure occurred over the Bering Sea region on the 19th of September, followed by a rise to abnormally high pressure over the northern portion of this forecast district, which reached its maximum on the 26th and 27th. Southwest storm warnings were displayed on the 20th and continued on the 21st and 22d on the coast north of Cape Blanco. The first display was made well in advance of the occurrence of storm winds, which blew with gale force at and north of the mouth of the Columbia River. Again on the 29th, southwest storm warnings were displayed for the same area and were followed by winds of gale force during the 30th day of the month.

In the valleys of California there were no rains of appreciable amount to interfere with the drying of fruits, although on the 1st and on the 30th advisory information was sent to protect fruit, when the conditions were somewhat threatening.

The forest fire situation was acute during the entire month in California and during several periods in Washington, Oregon, and Idaho. Daily advices were issued to cover the forest-fire hazard resulting from the dangerous weather conditions.

The following letter from the California State Board of Forestry, dated September 18, 1924, addressed to the Weather Bureau office, Sacramento, has been received:

I wish to express my appreciation of the valuable service which you have rendered us this summer in notifying us of the approach of hot spells, low humidity and strong winds. On two occasions I have notified the State rangers that hazardous fire conditions were approaching after receiving information from your office to that effect. This information has enabled the rangers to prepare for these situations and probably has resulted in the saving of much valuable timber and watershed cover.

A continuance of the very efficient service which you have rendered the California State Board of Forestry will be much appreciated.

This communication was signed by State Forester M. B. Pratt.—E. H. Bowie.

627.41 (73)

RIVERS AND FLOODS

By H. C. FRANKENFIELD, Meteorologist

As will be seen in the table following, no floods of importance, except those beginning on the 30th and continuing into October in the Atlantic drainage area occurred in the principal rivers of the United States during September, 1924. That of the Illinois River, which was reported in the August number of this REVIEW, continued well into the month without additional damage of consequence. Along the lower Rio Grande some slight inconvenience and expense resulted, following the 25th, from moderate overflows and the

necessity of repairs to and the patrolling of levees. The scattered mid-month rises in the Atlantic drainage area—specifically those in the Connecticut, Saluda (of South Carolina), and Broad (of Georgia) Rivers—were without serious damage. The more general floods that continued into October in the Atlantic area, which were of considerably greater extent and consequence, will be discussed in the October number of this REVIEW. Sufficient data are not now available.

Lock No. 8, Tennessee, on the Cumberland River was opened for service on September 15, 1924. This lock is 17.8 miles above Lock 7, and 124 miles above Nashville, Tenn. The normal pool stage maintained between Locks 7 and 8 is 6.0 feet, and the same above Lock 8 to Granville, Tenn., a distance of 16 miles. From Lock 8 to Lock 21, a distance of 173 miles, there are no locks and dams. The following item has been received from Mr. Roscoe Nunn.

The locks on the Cumberland River are now completed from Eddyville, Ky., up to Lock 8, and all-the-year navigation is possible in this part of the river, or from Eddyville, Ky., to Granville, Tenn., a distance of 290 miles. Below Eddyville, however, a 6-foot stage will not be available in the low-water season until a lock on the Ohio River, just below the mouth of the Cumberland, is completed. Work on this lock has just been started and it is expected that it will not be finished until 1929. The dam at this lock when in operation will back up the water to Lock F, Eddyville, making a 6-foot stage. Eddyville is 43 miles above the mouth of the Cumberland.

River and station	Flood stage	Above flood stages—dates		Crest	
		From—	To—	Stage	Date
ATLANTIC DRAINAGE					
	<i>Feet</i>			<i>Feet</i>	
Connecticut: White River Junction, Vt.	15	11	14	15.9	13
Lehigh: Mauch Chunk, Pa.	12	30	(C)		
Schuylkill: Reading, Pa.	10	30	(C)		
Susquehanna: Binghamton, N. Y.	14	30	(C)		
Chenango: Sherburne, N. Y.	8	30	(C)		
James: Columbia, Va.	18	30	(C)		
Roanoke: Weldon, N. C.	30	30	(C)		
Tar: Rocky Mount, N. C.	9	30	(C)		
Fishing Creek: Enfield, N. C.	15	30	(C)		
Neuse:					
Neuse, N. C.	15	30	(C)		
Smithfield, N. C.	14	30	(C)		
Cape Fear:					
Fayetteville, N. C.	35	30	(C)		
Elizabethtown, N. C.	22	30	(C)		
Haw: Moncure, N. C.	22	30	(C)		
Waccamaw: Conway, S. C.	7	28	(C)		
Black: Kingstree, S. C.	12	29	(C)		
Santee:					
Rimini, S. C.	12	17	(C)	15.3	27
Ferguson, S. C.	12	18	(C)		
Catawba: Catawba, S. C.	12	30	(C)		
Congaree: Columbia, S. C.	15	30	(C)		
Broad: Blair, S. C.	15	29	(C)		
Saluda:					
Palzer, S. C.	7	21	22	10.0	22
		30	(C)		
Chappells, S. C.	14	16	16	14.1	16
		24	24	14.0	24
		30	(C)		
Broad: Carlton, Ga.	11	26	26	11.6	26
Oconee:					
Milledgeville, Ga.	22	26	(C)	31.5	26
Dublin, Ga.	22	29	(C)		
Ocmulgee: Macon, Ga.	18	30	(C)		
MISSISSIPPI DRAINAGE					
Shenango: Sharon, Pa.	9	30	(C)		
Holston (North Fork): Mendota, Va.	8	30	(C)		
Illinois:					
Peru, Ill.	14	(C)	9	19.8	Aug. 11
Henry, Ill.	7	(C)	25	13.7	Aug. 23, 24
Peoria, Ill.	16	(C)	10	21.0	Aug. 24
Havana, Ill.	14	(C)	11	19.0	Aug. 25
Beardstown, Ill.	12	(C)	21	19.1	Aug. 28, 29
Pearl, Ill.	12	(C)	10	15.7	Aug. 30
WEST GULF DRAINAGE					
Rio Grande:					
Rio Grande City, Tex.	15	25	25	15.0	25
San Benito, Tex.	21	18	29	24.2	27

1 Continued at end of month.

2 Continued from last month.